

Remarks

Claims 1-12 are now present.

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 are amended.

Claim 12 is added.

Information Disclosure Statement filed Sept. 26, 2003

The Action states that U.S. Pat. No. 5,955,691 has been withdrawn and is not considered.

Applicant points out that the IDS filed Sept. 26, 2003 included U.S. Pat. No. 5,955,619, Nesvadba, et al.

The Examiner is kindly requested to indicate that U.S. Pat. No. 5,955,619 is considered by returning an initialed copy of PTO form 1449.

Amendments

Claim 1 is amended to add process steps and to state that the crosslinking is shown by the crosslinked polyvinyl butyral having an increased molecular weight. Support is found in original claim 6 and the working Examples, pages 8-9 of the specification.

Claim 2 is amended to have proper antecedent basis and to be more clear.

Claim 3 is amended to remove multiple dependency and to be more clear.

Claim 4 is amended to remove multiple dependency.

Claim 5 is amended to remove multiple dependency.

Claim 6 is amended to state that benzofuranone or benzofuranone derivatives are the crosslinking reagents. Support is found in claim 1. Claim 6 is also amended to insert the limitation that the crosslinked polyvinyl butyral exhibits an increased molecular weight. Support is found in the working Examples, pages 8-9 of the specification.

Claim 8 is amended to remove multiple dependency.

Claims 9 and 10 are amended to remove multiple dependency and to insert the term "crosslinked" before "polyvinyl butyral". Support is found in the specification, page 6, first and third paragraphs.

Claim 11 is amended to be a laminated safety glass comprising a film of claim 10. Support is inherent and is found in the specification, page 6, fourth paragraph.

New claim 12 is added to recapture matter deleted from claim 8.

No new matter is added.

Claim Objections and Rejections

Claims 4-11 are objected to as being in improper multiple dependent form; these claims have not been considered.

The objected to claims are repaired by amendment as discussed above.

The Examiner is kindly requested to rejoin and consider claims 4-11.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for reasons of record.

The present claims are repaired by amendment as discussed previously.

In view of these amendments, Applicant submits that the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections are addressed and are overcome.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Hann, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,268,490 or Hann, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,389,597.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hann references.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pastor, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,512,621, Nesvadba, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,516,920 or Meier, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,852,090.

None of the cited art describes or shows any polyvinylbutyral that is crosslinked. There is no suggestion from the cited art that polyvinylbutyral can be crosslinked with benzofuranones.

The present claims now contain a limitation as to how the crosslinking is performed, and as to how it is determined to have been accomplished, that is by exhibiting an increased molecular weight.

In view of the present amendments, Applicant submits that the 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a) rejections are addressed and are overcome.

In light of the present amendments and the above discussion, Applicant submits that each of the claim objections and rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present objections and rejections.

Applicant submits that the present claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that they be found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler A. Stevenson', written over a horizontal line.

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